

April 2002

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# EMPLOYER *Update*



## 2nd Annual Career Finder Expo



*Businesses and applicants at last year's Career finder Expo.*

The St. George Employment Center (EC) and *The Spectrum* are hosting the 2nd Annual Career Finder Expo on **April 5, 2002**. This year's Career Finder Expo will give you the opportunity to recruit from a diverse and qualified applicant pool that is eager to learn more about your company. This is the perfect opportunity to showcase your business!

Last year there were 25 booths and hundreds of participants. We hope for an even greater turnout this year. The expo will be held at the Department of Workforce Services, 162 North 400 East in St. George, and will start at 1:00 p.m. and run until 7:00 p.m.

For registration information, please call Kimberly Johnson with DWS 435-986-3541.

### Sign up early and receive an additional discount.

- 4'x6' booth which includes, skirted table, two chairs, and an electrical outlet
- (1) quarter page B/W ad in the "Career Finder Expo" Special section tabloid to be published in *The Spectrum* Thursday, April 4, 2002
- (1) ad (2 column x 3") to run in the "Career Finder" classified section in *The Spectrum* on Monday, April 1 and 8, 2002
- Lunch and hospitality suite will be provided for up to two people per booth
- Company name included in promotional advertisements, running prior to event in [thespectrum.com](http://thespectrum.com) website

State of Utah  
Governor Michael O.  
Leavitt



Western Region  
Jan Thompson, Regional Director  
40 South 200 East • St. George, UT  
(435) 688-3100



## Bob Gross Resigns from Workforce Services

Bob Gross, the Executive Director of the Utah Department of Workforce Services (DWS), resigned his position effective March 1, 2002. Bob has announced he will be a candidate for Utah's first congressional district seat vacated by the retiring Jim Hansen.

In a message to DWS employees, Bob said the decision was a difficult and painful one. "This has been an especially painful decision for me personally. Serving as the Executive Director of DWS has been, for me personally, a labor of love during the past six years (including the nearly five years of our actual operation). I have come to regard so many of you as deep and sincere personal friends. The thoughts of leaving you for a new personal endeavor have been very, very sad and difficult!"

Bob also said he leaves the department in capable hands. "I leave you with what I think and hope you agree, is an outstanding Senior Management Team. With the recent additions of Blaine Crawford as Deputy Director, John Nixon as Finance Director, Tani Downing as head of Adjudication, Kevin Beutler in Human Resources, Greg Gardner in Workforce Information Technology, Chris Love in Unemployment Insurance, and the promotion of Jim Finch as our other Deputy Director, we have strengthened and added to the other outstanding division heads and Regional Directors already in place. Our employee representatives on the Senior Management Team, both past and present, have offered remarkable leadership and employee input to the decisions that the SMT undertakes."

"May I wish each and every one of you the fondest of farewells! A part of my heart will always remain here with you and at DWS. I extend to each of you my best wishes and my best wishes for DWS. You and this department have been my labor of love. God bless you!"

## Announcement

Greg Gardner has been appointed by the Governor to serve as Interim Executive Director. Greg Gardner has been with the department since its inception and has many years of experience administering the state's employment and job training programs. He also has the knowledge necessary to keep the department moving forward until a new executive director is named. The selection process is expected to be completed by early April 2002.

## TrendLines Magazine Keeps You Up to Speed

By **Connie Blaine**  
**Workforce Information Coordinator**

**TrendLines** magazine, the newest labor market information product from Workforce Information, has made a big splash in just three issues. Employers, consumers and DWS employees are discovering this great source of economic news, written in plain English.

Our economists, and the guest writers who contribute feature articles to **TrendLines**, lend their expertise to help you make sense of these trying economic times. They condense and interpret the blizzard of economic data out there into easy-to-understand articles and graphs, so you don't have to be an economist to stay well-informed on the economy.

**TrendLines'** articles are short and to the point, offering the most essential news about the local, state and national economies. Most items also link to websites that provide additional information for those wanting to know more about the topic.

The bi-monthly **TrendLines** magazine is usually posted on the Web at least two weeks sooner than it is available in print. Click on "Economic Information," from the DWS home page ([jobs.utah.gov](http://jobs.utah.gov)). There you will also find "**TrendLines Extra**" - a weekly bulletin (updated each Monday) on economic news between regular **TrendLines** issues.

Never miss an issue! Subscribe to **TrendLines**, either in print, or electronically. Contact Workforce Information at (801) 526-9786. Become a regular reader of both **TrendLines** and **TrendLines Extra**, and you'll astonish others with your economic knowledge!

Smart business people know where to find the latest, most accurate information available about economic trends, the labor market, cost of living and industry trends. There's county-level economic information too, and it's all free and up-to-date on the DWS Economic Information web site: [jobs.utah.gov](http://jobs.utah.gov)



## EMPLOYER CONFERENCE

*“Economic Realities  
and the Workplace.”*

**4 April 2002**

**South Towne Expo Center  
9575 South State Street**

On Thursday, 4 April 2002, the Department of Workforce Services, along with several public and private sponsors, will host the fourth annual **Utah Employer Conference**. The purpose of the Utah Employer Conference is to provide businesses, both large and small, topical information as well as innovative solutions to the myriad of complex problems that surface on a daily basis. The theme this year is: “Economic Realities and the Workplace.”

The Utah Employer Conference will be held at the South Towne Exposition Center in Sandy. The Governor has been invited to address the attendees and comment on the state of the state and its economy. Also, the Department of Workforce Services will release its much sought after Utah wage data. And, the most family-friendly employers will be announced and recognized for the fourth annual Work/Life Awards.

The keynote speaker will be nationally renowned economics and business writer and contributing editor of *Newsweek*, **Rich Thomas**. Mr. Thomas has written and contributed to scores of cover stories on economic developments in the U.S. and abroad.

Topics covered this year during the breakout sessions may include the following:

- Cultural integration and the bottom line
- Economic forecast
- Effective mediation
- Employment law update
- Women in the workplace
- Work/Life practices
- Workplace realities
- UWORKS unveiled
- ... and more!

The price to attend the Utah Employer Conference is \$65.00 per person. For information, or to register with your MasterCard or Visa, call (888) 920-WORK (9675).

## New Web Features Coming for UI Employers

Be on the lookout for your April issue of the *Employer Advisor* newsletter featuring exciting new web capabilities for Utah's UI tax paying employers. The *Employer Advisor* will be enclosed with your quarterly report forms.

## KUDOS

**To Cathy Carey and Tracy Harris-Belnap:**

*“Thank you very much for providing such powerful classes for us. I feel charged up to tackle my life during this depressing time of unemployment. I also appreciate the Utah Department of Workforce Services for providing these fantastic, informative classes.”*

**Yuri Bennett**

**About Gerald Gappmayer:**

*“I just wanted to praise your workers in the Blanding office. I am a single mother with three children. I went in to your offices there in Blanding expecting to get the run around. I was surprised with the respectful and courteous assistance given to me by the case worker. I was very grateful for the help he gave me, if all your workers are like him, you have a great staff.”*

**unsigned**

**About Jackie Christiansen:**

*“[She] really cares about me and she really helped me realize that I was somebody, and not just another case number, by demonstrating her memorable compassion towards me. I really can't put into words my gratitude and appreciation towards her. She really cares about her clients.”*

**unsigned**

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## Western Region

### Western Region Council Award Local Businesses



(from l-r) Kim Johnson of DWS, Dwight Mazzone, Brett Applegate, and Joe Caldwell of European Connection Café



Kim Johnson of DWS with Wendy's Manager Brad Olsen

Karen Alvey, Chair of the Western Region Council, presented awards to three local businesses. Garry Owens, manager of **Red Rock Center for Independence**, was presented an award for working with DWS on behalf of Welfare-to-Work/GROW customers.

Managers at **European Connection Café** exclusively used DWS to hire their employees. They currently have 12 employees hired through DWS screening and are pleased with the applicants referred to them by the St. George office.

**Wendy's** was honored for the service and support they give community youth by their willingness to hire high school students. Students love the great work environment at Wendy's. Manager Brad Olsen has worked with DWS whenever he needs new employees. He cares about his staff and has received many favorable employee comments.

### Western Region Business Consultants

Beaver	Connie Fails	(435) 438-5498
Cedar City	Bob Cranford	(435) 865-6548
Delta	Linda Lundberg	(435) 864-3860
Fillmore	Wendell Robison	(435) 743-5304
Junction	Janet Butterfield	(435) 577-2443
Kanab	David Nash	(435) 644-8910
Loa	Becky Pace	(435) 836-2406
Manti	Bruce Barton	(435) 835-0738
Nephi	Carol Lange	(435) 623-1927
Panguitch	Jolene Smith	(435) 676-8896
Richfield	Lela King	(435) 893-0016
St. George	Kimberly Johnson	(435) 986-3541

